

# The Sutra of the Past Vows of Earth Store Bodhisattva with Commentary

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### 【忉利天宮神通品第二】

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翻譯

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CHAPTER ONE:  
SPIRITUAL PENETRATIONS IN THE PALACE OF THE TRAYASTRIMSHA HEAVEN

這夜摩天呢？壽命一千五百歲，身量高有一哩半。忉利天的天人身量高一哩，四王天的身量高，就半哩。這每一層天往上去就加五百歲壽命，加半哩的身量，越往上越高，越往上壽命越增加。

「兜率陀天」：也是梵語，翻譯成中文，就叫知足，這個天就叫知足天。兜率陀天有內院、外院。內院就是彌勒菩薩現在住的地方，外院是一般的天人所住的。兜率內院，三災到不了，兜率外院就會被三災給毀滅了。

「化樂天」：有一種快樂，是變化性的快樂，非常快樂，變化出來的快樂。

「他化自在天」：這個天的這種快樂是由其他的天所化現出來的，他有神通，把其他天的快樂都可以轉移到他這個天這邊來。他化自在天所住的就是天魔，是天魔所住的地方，不是真正天上的神或仙所住的，而是天魔所住的。

以上叫六欲天，這六天就是：四王天、忉利天、夜摩天、兜率陀天、化樂天、他化自在天。為什麼叫六欲天呢？這兒的天人，雖然生到天上去，但是還有淫慾心，還有不清淨的思想。我在暑假講《楞嚴經》時，已經講過這六欲天了，不過相信你們都不歡喜要，所以又都送回來給我了，所以我現在再送給你們。

六欲天的天人都有淫慾心，四王天和忉利天的天人行淫欲，和我們人間的人是

The length of life in the Suyama Heaven is fifteen hundred years and the heights of beings there is one and a half miles. Heavenly beings in the Trayastrimsha Heaven are one mile in height and beings in the Heaven of the Four Kings are half a mile in height. The length of life increases by five hundred years and the height of beings increases by half a mile for each higher heaven. The higher the heaven, the longer the life of beings is there.

**The Tushita Heaven.** This is also Sanskrit and means “contentment”. This is the Heaven of Contentment. There is an inner court and an outer court in the Tushita Heaven. The inner court is where Maitreya Bodhisattva now resides. The outer court is where the ordinary gods in that heaven dwell. The three disasters cannot reach the inner court of the Tushita Heaven but the outer court of the Tushita Heaven will be destroyed when the three disasters occur.

Beings in the **Transformation of Bliss Heaven** enjoy an exquisite bliss that comes forth transformationally.

**And the Heaven of Comfort Gained Through Others’ Transformations.** Joy in this heaven comes forth transformationally from other heavenly beings. They can transfer the joys of other heavens to this heaven with their spiritual powers. The Heaven of Comfort Gained Through Others’ Transformations is inhabited by demons of the heavens, not by ascetic masters or gods.

Just named are the Six Desire Heavens: The Heaven of the Four Kings, the Trayastrimsha Heaven, the Suyama Heaven, the Tushita Heaven, the Transformation of Bliss Heaven, the Heaven of Comfort Gained Through Others’ Transformations. Why are these heavens the six heavens of desire? These gods, although residing in these heavens, still have sexual desire and impure

一樣的，為什麼一樣呢？他們都有形體，四王天的天人也一樣要結婚，忉利天的天人也一樣要結婚，都有夫婦、父子的情形。四王天的天人生孩子，一生出來的小孩子有多大呢？就有人間小孩五歲那麼大。忉利天呢？就有七歲那麼大，夜摩天就有十歲那麼大。小孩子一生出來就這麼大，坐在天人的膝蓋上。生出來，等一等吃一種自然的天露（天的甘露），他吃這天的甘露，是自然化現出來的，等吃完之後，沒有好久，就變得和一般的天人一樣大了，也就是身量有半哩高，壽命有五百歲那麼長，這是四王天。

這有四句偈。在暑假時我已經講過了，我現在再講一遍，我若不再講，相信你們都忘了。

四王忉利欲交抱，  
夜摩執手兜率笑，  
化樂熟視他暫視，  
此是六天之欲樂。

所謂「四王忉利欲交抱」，四王天和忉利天淫欲的行為，和我們人間的人是一樣的。「夜摩執手兜率笑」，夜摩天男女這種情欲就是互相握握手，好像西方人互相握手，在天上夫婦這種夫妻的性行為，只有握一握手這就算了，這是夜摩天。兜率天呢？男女行淫欲只互相笑一笑，因為那個地方的天人平時不笑的。為什麼不笑呢？因為情慾太輕了，幾乎沒有情慾了。在六欲天天上，越高一層，欲念就越輕一點。為什麼在我們人間修道的人要去欲斷愛，要沒有這個欲念呢？也就因為你欲念多，你的愚癡就多一點；你若欲念輕，智慧就增加一點。

欲念就屬於五濁惡世，所謂「五濁」，什麼「濁」呢？就是這個「欲念」是最污濁，最不乾淨的東西。所以在天上四王天的這種欲念，這種情慾和我們人間一樣的，忉利天比較四王天就輕一點，夜摩天就互相握一握手，「夜摩執手兜率笑」。

◎待續

thoughts. When I was lecturing on the *Shurangama Sutra* during the summer, I talked about these Six Desire Heavens already. I believe none of you enjoyed it so you returned the information to me. That's why I am giving it to you again now.

The beings of the Six Desire Heavens still have sexual desire. Beings in the Heaven of Four Kings and Trayastrimsha Heaven perform sexual acts in the same way human beings do. Why is that? They all have physical form. The beings in the Heaven of Four Kings and the Trayastrimsha Heaven also marry. There are couples and father-son relationships. What size is a newborn in the Heaven of Four Kings? The same size as a five-year-old in the human realm. And in the Trayastrimsha Heaven? The same size as a seven-year-old in the human realm. A newborn in the Suyama Heaven is the same size as a ten-year-old in the human realm. When born, newborns of those sizes sit on the knees of heavenly beings. Once they are born, they wait to eat a kind of natural, celestial dew that forms spontaneously. Not long after they drink this, they become full-sized heavenly beings, who are half a mile in height with five-hundred-year life spans. This happens in the Heaven of Four Kings.

I spoke this four-line verse during the summer session, but I think I need to repeat it here, since you likely will have forgotten it.

*In the Four Kings and Thirty-three embracing will do.  
In Yama they hold hands; in Tushita, they smile.  
In Transforming Bliss, it's a stare; in Others' a glance.  
That's how the Six Heavens' gods derive sexual pleasure.*

**In the Four Kings and Thirty-three embracing will do.** Sexual activity in the Heaven of the Four Kings and the Trayastrimsha Heaven is carried on the same as in the human realm. **In Yama they hold hands; in Tushita, they smile.** Sexual fulfillment is achieved in the Suyama heaven when the gods hold hands. It's like the way that Westerners openly hold hands, only for couples in this heaven that's all that's needed. What about in the Tushita Heaven? Well, there a man and woman need only smile at each other. That works because normally the gods in this heaven do not smile. Why don't they smile? Their sexual impetus is slight to the point of being almost non-existent.

For gods in these Six Desire Heavens, the higher the heaven they abide in, the less sexual desire they have. Why do we people want to get rid of desire and cast out emotional love in our practice? Why do we want to be free of sexual thoughts? It's the same principle: the more sexual desire a person has, the more dull-witted a person becomes. The lighter our sexual desire is, the greater our wisdom becomes.

Sexual thoughts are part of being in the Evil World of Five Turbidities. As to the Five Turbidities, how is "turbidity" defined? Sexual thoughts are most turbid and unclean. Feelings of desire occur to the gods in the Heaven of the Four Kings in the same way they do to human beings. Compared to the Heaven of the Four Kings, what gods in the Trayastrimsha Heaven experience is somewhat lighter. All they need to do is hold hands. In Yama they hold hands; in Tushita, they smile.

◎To be continued